

REMARKS*1. Status of claims*

Claims 1-98, 181, and 184-194 are canceled. Pending claims 99-139, 141-180, and 182-183 are allowed.

2. Response to Office Action Dated January 3, 2006

The Examiner has repeated the rejections of claims 186-194 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) originally set forth in non-final rejection of 10/22/04, pages 2-5, paragraphs 5-8. Applicants traverse this ground for rejection but have canceled the rejected claims in the interest of furthering prosecution of the application. The remaining claims are allowed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance.

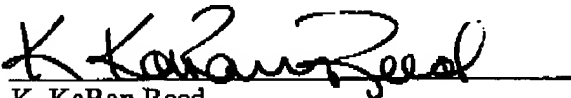
3. Final remarks

Applicants submit that this response to the final Office Action dated January 3, 2006, canceling the rejected claims now puts this application in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned patent attorney at (832) 813-4339 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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